

## Message Text

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ORIGIN SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /031 R

DRAFTED BY S/P - PHBOEKER

APPROVED BY S/P - WLORD

H - MR. MACHENZIE (SUBS)

S/WF - AMB. MARTIN (SUBS)

EB - MR. KATZ (DRAFT)

S - MR. EAGLEBURGER (SUBS)

S/S - MR. LUERS

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 144500

STADIS//////////

EXDIS, TOSEC 287

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EGEN

SUBJECT: HUMPHREY REQUEST THAT YOU TESTIFY ON HIS WORLD

FOOD RESOLUTION

FROM LORD AND ENDERS

1. SENATOR HUMPHREY HAS WRITTEN YOU TO INVITE YOU TO  
APPEAR AT SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE HEARINGS  
JULY 11 ON HIS WORLD FOOD RESOLUTION. WE SUGGEST YOU  
REGRET, CITING YOUR SCHEDULE. (EVEN IF YOU RETURN BY THE  
11TH, YOU WOULD HAVE INADEQUATE TIME TO PREPARE YOURSELF  
FOR A SFRC APPEARANCE ON FOOD POLICY; ALSO, THE  
STATE OF EXECUTIVE BRANCH DELIBERATIONS GIVES US LITTLE  
NEW TO SAY AT THIS POINT.)

2. ON THE QUESTION OF INCREASED US FOOD AID, WHICH  
HUMPHREY RAISES, AGRICULTURE HAS BECOME MORE CAUTIOUS, AS  
RECENT HEAVY RAINS HAVE MADE A VERY LARGE FOOD AID  
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INCREASE A SOMEWHAT RISKIER PROPOSITION IN TERMS OF DOMES-

TIC PRICE IMPACT. (IN A NERVOUS MARKET, THE RAINS HAVE SHOT UP THE WHEAT PRICE TO WELL OVER \$4 PER BUSHEL FROM \$3.25 THREE WEEKS AGO.) WE ARE CONTINUING OUR DISCUSSIONS WITH AGRICULTURE AND OMB, AND AGRICULTURE APPEARS INCLINED TO SUPPORT AN INCREASE OF ABOUT \$600 MILLION. BUT BUTZ MAY WELL WANT TO WAIT UNTIL

MID AUGUST TO LET MARKET JITTERS SETTLE DOWN AND TO GET A CLEARER FIX ON SPRING WHEAT AND CORN PLANTINGS AS WELL AS THE SOVIET WHEAT CROP. ROY ASH WILL WISH TO WAIT EVEN LONGER AND WILL PROBABLY RESIST EVEN THIS SCALED-DOWN INCREASE ON BUDGET GROUNDS.

3. SOME SLIPPAGE IN OUR SCHEDULE FOR ACTION ON A FOOD AID INCREASE APPEARS INEVITABLE, BUT IT IS NOT CLEAR YET WHETHER LATE JULY OR AUGUST WOULD BE THE BEST TIME TO GET THE RIGHT DECISION. YOUR INVOLVEMENT WILL BE NECESSARY TO OVERCOME ROY ASH'S OPPOSITION TO THE BUDGET INCREASE. WE WILL GIVE YOU ANOTHER READING ON THE DESIRABLE TIMING AND FORM OF YOUR INTERVENTION AFTER YOUR RETURN. AS YOU KNOW THIS IS THE CENTERPIECE OF OUR FOLLOW UP TO THE UNGA AND THEREFORE OF MAJOR POLITICAL IMPORTANCE

4. TEXT OF HUMPHREY LETTER, DATED JUNE 24, AND SUGGESTED REPLY FOLLOW. IF YOU APPROVE, WE WILL SIGN FOR YOU.

A. DEAR HENRY:

ON JULY 11, 1974 THE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE WILL BE HOLDING A MORNING HEARING ON S. RES. 329, THE WORLD FOOD RESOLUTION, WHICH I INTRODUCE ALONG WITH GEORGE AIKEN, MILTON YOUNG AND GALE MCGEE. I WILL BE CHAIRING THIS HEARING AND I WOULD LIKE TO INVITE YOU TO APPEAR.

I VIEW THIS HEARING AS AN EXCELLENT OPPORTUNITY FOR THE ADMINISTRATION TO DEAL WITH THE WORLD FOOD PROBLEM AND PERHAPS ANNOUNCE ITS PLANS FOR EXPANDED FOOD ASSISTANCE. I HAVE NO DOUBT THAT THE RESOLUTION WILL PASS THE SENATE WITH OVERWHELMING SUPPORT. IT ALREADY HAS 32 COSPONSORS. A SIMILAR MEASURE HAS ALREADY

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PEEN INTRODUCED IN THE HOUSE. THE HEARING IS MEANT TO HIGHLIGHT THE PROBLEM AND THE AMERICAN COMMITMENT TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT. IN VIEW OF YOUR INTEREST IN THE WORLD FOOD PROBLEM AND OUR PAST DISCUSSIONS OF THIS ISSUE, YOUR PERSONAL PARTICIPATION WOULD BE BENEFICIAL TO SENATE CONSIDERATION OF THIS COMPLEX ISSUE.

WITH BEST WISHES.

-- SINCERELY,

-- HUBERT H. HUMPHREY

B. DEAR HUBERT:

I AM DELIGHTED THAT THE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE IS HOLDING A HEARING ON YOUR FORWARD-LOOKING RESOLUTION ON THE WORLD FOOD PROBLEM. YOU KNOW THAT I SHARE YOUR CONCERN REGARDING THE CURRENT PRECARIOUS BALANCE OF WORLD FOOD SUPPLIES AND NEEDS AND YOUR JUDGMENT THAT AMERICA HAS A UNIQUE CAPABILITY AND OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE A MAJOR CONTRIBUTION TOWARD ALLEVIATING THE PRESENT PLIGHT OF THE LOWEST INCOME COUNTRIES. THE ADMINISTRATION IS GIVING INTENSE CONSIDERATION TO THE WORLD FOOD PROBLEM AND PRESSING ON WITH EFFORTS TO DEVELOP A COMPREHENSIVE US APPROACH. I HOPE TO BE ABLE TO REPORT TO THE CONGRESS ON OUR CONCLUSIONS AT A LATER DATE.

UNFORTUNATELY MY SCHEDULE MAKES IT IMPOSSIBLE FOR ME TO APPEAR BEFORE THE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE JULY 11. I HAVE ASKED AMBASSADOR EDWIN MARTIN TO OFFER TO APPEAR IN MY STEAD TO BRING THE COMMITTEE UP TO DATE ON OUR DEVELOPING THINKING AND PREPARATIONS FOR THE WORLD FOOD CONFERENCE.

I WISH YOU AND THE OTHER SPONSORS OF THE RESOLUTION EVERY SUCCESS IN YOUR CONTINUING EFFORTS TO INCREASE AWARENESS OF THE WORLD FOOD PROBLEM AND THE NEED FOR A US RESPONSE.

WARM REGARDS,

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-- SINCERELY,

-- HENRY A. KISSINGER SISCO

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## Message Attributes

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